

One Jet, 3 Labels, Senator Charges On Super-Planes

By the Associated Press

Sen. James B. Pearson, R-Kan., says the administration and Defense Department are trying to fool the public by pinning three different labels on the same basic new 2,000 mile an hour aircraft.

Pearson said in a statement yesterday that the plane first was announced as the A-11, or a speedy new attack plane, and later a modified version was unveiled as SR-71, or a strategic-reconnaissance plane.

He said it now has been re-tagged the YF-12A, or a new fighter-interceptor.

The Republican senator said, "We trot out a new designation for the same aircraft every time the Defense Department is asked for material for a political speech."

Pearson added that the initial development of the new aircraft began in 1959, during the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, "as a follow-on aircraft to the high-flying U2 reconnaissance plane."